

Brethren Evangelist

"I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life."—Jesus

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Editorial

A Means of Grace

A sensational, and very often an unclean daily paper can now be found in nearly every home, and there is no telling the amount of mischief it does, particularly where there are young people who are just forming the reading habit, and gaining their first vivid impressions of the world. How different is the mission and the work of a good church paper. Parents should certainly desire the very best moral influence in the home, and in this respect nothing can take the place of the church paper. It will not simply carry along with it a religious influence, but will emphasize it by its special interest and influence as the voice of our church. Nothing can take its place in the matter of interesting your children in the church. Do you wish them to be safely gathered in from the world, into the shelter of the fold? Then among the agencies for so important an object, make the church paper a permanent institution in your home.

Warm Up From Within

There are at least two ways of removing from the panes of your windows the thick frost with which they are covered on a cold winter morning. The one is to take a knife and scrape the panes. This is tedious work, and not very permanent for the frost will return again. There is a better way. Warm up the room from the inside and the frost will disappear. We can not get rid of our sins and bad habits by "scraping" the outside. Yet that is what a great many sinners are trying to do. Respectable church members too are making the same mistake in the effort to get rid of bad habits, such as the use of slang, smoking and chewing tobacco, the nasty chewing gum habit, and many others with which, unfortunately, many church members are afflicted. You can not "scrape" them off from the outside. Warm up from within and they will melt away. Lazarus had use for his grave clothes as long as he was dead, but when Christ by his divine resuscitating power brought back his life, the grave clothes fell off. The new life, the Christ-life within, pressing against our besetting sins and our bad habits, will remove them as certainly as mist disappears before the rising sun. If the windows of your soul are covered with the thick frost of selfishness and worldliness, barring out the Light, and if your charities are frozen up so that no appeals can reach or touch your feel-

ings, if this is your condition, then get the Christ-life, the new and the higher life into your heart, warm up the soul with the love of God, and your frozen up resolutions will thaw out, the windows of the soul be cleared of the frost, and the world will be to you more than a mere "stage" for your entertainment.

Robert the Smart

If several of the most eminent New York divines had as much brains as Ingersoll, the notorious infidel, they would refrain from poking their noses into his particularly smart trap. Bob is smart, which doesn't argue anything for the devil is smarter, but this exceedingly cute guile of his serves his delighted purpose of confounding the representatives of the Gospel. Recently he delivered a lecture against the existence of the devil, which by the way is the most natural job Bob has undertaken for a long time considering that the devil is anxious for this impression to gain ground, and the preachers immediately rushed into print to save the truth. It isn't certain that they have saved anything, not even their previous credit. A fool may ask questions which a wise man can not answer, but these wise men undertake to answer the questions of one of the smartest scamps who ever denied God, and no lover of the good cause feels particularly comfortable over the result. It seems to be very hard for the learned and talented man to remember that he cannot by searching find out God, or the mysteries of providence and destiny in which he shrouds his eternal purposes. "Be still, (in other words hold your tongue) and know that I am God."

The Terms of Peace

The United States and Spain have agreed upon terms of peace, or rather Spain has submitted to the terms imposed by our government, and this marks the termination of the war. May it be America's last war. Our large territorial acquisitions, for the most part in distant seas and peopled with alien and undeveloped races, imposes upon us a new and weighty responsibility. Particularly does this responsibility bear upon the moral and Christian elements of the country who are called upon to see that our new possessions are not simply transferred from one tyranny to others. That designing persons will seek to exploit the simple minded millions in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippine islands in order to bleed them as much as possible is certain. All sorts of

concessions, grants, special privileges, and other kinds of long fingers made to explore people's pockets will be sought, until exuberant gratitude for the present deliverance may be transformed into prayer for another deliverance. Modern politics has been described as the science of enriching yourself while you fool the people, and the loot which the sleek and voluble gentry fail to gobble up isn't astonishing for its great abundance. For a change, give us a righteous administration of the conquered islands.

To the Churches in Ohio

It is now almost Christmas and more than one half of the Ohio State Conference year is in the past. It is pertinent to ask every pastor in the state what he and his people have done toward carrying out the resolutions of the conference held at Pleasant Hill, in June of this year. In the way of refreshing your memory on the work of the conference, touching the missions of the state, permit us to call your attention to the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this Conference request all Brethren Sunday schools in the state of Ohio to take collections for missionary purposes regularly on the last Sunday in June and December of each year.

Resolved, That we earnestly request all churches in the state to pay into the treasury of the Home Mission Board the sum of no less than 25 cents per member, and that pastors and workers make every possible effort to raise said amount, and that delinquent churches be reported to the Conference.

The representatives of the churches in the state of Ohio unanimously adopted these resolutions, and it is only reasonable to suppose that in giving their vote to these resolutions they were carrying out the wishes of the people whom they represented. Pastors, have you forgotten the resolution which earnestly requests that you make an effort to collect at least 25 cents per member from the churches you serve? Have you brought the matter before your people? Have you preached a sermon or several sermons on the subject of missions, and have you made an appeal to your people for their quota or even as much as given them an opportunity to give for this purpose? The board has promised a certain amount to the support of the Dayton Mission, a very small amount indeed, but of this amount there is now two months unpaid. A few of our pastors have collected their quota, and of course these words do not apply to them. Please observe that one of the resolutions calls for two collections during the year from our Sunday School for the support of this work. If you have not